

DISTRICT MILK COST WILL BE PROBED FIRST

National Study of Producing
Cost Announced by Agricultural Department.

THREE EXPERTS IN CHARGE

Department of Justice Takes
Hand to Aid in Nation-Wide
Investigation.

A national probe into the cost of producing milk and the justification for the threatened rise in prices, was announced today by the Agricultural Department.

The first formal action will be taken tomorrow when milk producers from Maryland and Virginia who supply the Washington market will confer with department officials.

W. J. Spillman, of the office of farm management; B. H. Rawl, chief of the dairy division, and Department Solicitor Frank G. Caffy will be in charge of the Government effort. Spillman today said he would appoint a special investigator, an expert of national reputation, to study conditions throughout the United States to learn whether producers would be justified in a general price raise.

THREATEN ANTI-TRUST

Solicitor Caffy was ordered into the case at the suggestion of Administration leaders who were charged with holding the whip hand over the farmers, threatened anti-trust law action if the nation's milk producers sought to combine.

Virtually, the probe will be undertaken as an answer to the following proposition received from milk producers all over the country and especially from New York, New England, Pennsylvania, and the region about Chicago:

"We don't know just what it is costing us to produce milk, but we do know we are getting poorer, so we want to know whether we are getting enough money for our product."

Letters Pouring In.
This is the tenor of letters that have been pouring into the department for months. The letters are chiefly from milk producers in territory contiguous to cities of the United States.

Chief Spillman believes there are two basic causes. One is a shortage of, and, therefore, higher prices for, feed. The other is too much regulation by city health authorities.

Health authorities naturally are trying to make ideal conditions. The object—getting pure milk—of course is commendable, but they leave little initiative to the farmer. They study the farm and the farmer's system. If that's all right, they rate him high; sometimes even when the milk itself has not been correctly tested. What they ought to do is to go after the milk, keep close tabs on it, and as long as it rates as it should let the farmer alone. He has been ordered to install many modern improvements that he actually loses when he sells at the present price.

The biggest question for the special investigators whom I shall appoint shortly will be to identify the cost of the product in relation to the cost of complying with health department regulations, and the relation of the regulation recommended to the purity of the milk."

Pays Father's Debt To Conscience Fund

Louisville Man Sends \$10 Contribution for Deceased Parent.

Postmaster General Burleson received today the following letter from Louisville, Ky., enclosing \$10 for the "Conscience Fund":

"Some time ago, my father, now deceased, informed me that he was indebted to the Government. He was employed by the Government some time ago, and misappropriated some of the Government property and time. The amount that father owed I am sure that father did not know, and I am sure I do not, but from the information father gave me I think that \$10 would make all things right. I hope you will be kind enough to forward the inclosed \$10 to the Conscience fund at the United States Treasury at Washington, D. C., and have a small notice published in one of the Louisville, Ky., papers, so that I may know that the Government received these rights."

"Mr. Burleson, I selected you to attend to this matter because I know that you are a gentleman. Please excuse me for taking up your time."

Respectfully,
Ho; for Gratonathalnik
Of Konstantinograd

Maryland Plans to Regulate the Use of Blinding Auto Lamps

Government and State Automobile Club, Aroused by
Increase of Accidents on Baltimore Boulevard,
Seek to Make Highways Safe.

By S. M. REYNOLDS.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 13.—Thoroughly aroused over the growing number of automobile accidents occurring on the Washington-Baltimore boulevard, officials of the Maryland State government and of the Automobile Club of Maryland are considering ways and means of compelling more careful driving along that popular highway, particularly at night.

Of particular concern to officials in this State is the necessity for some practical means of regulating the use on the country roads of the glaring headlights. Although motorists between the two cities are not allowed to use such lights either in Baltimore or Washington, there is no law existing to prohibit their use outside the limits of these cities.

Owing to the absolute necessity for such lights on dark stretches of road throughout the State, the feeling among officials here is that an absolute prohibition of their use would cause more accidents than otherwise, and that the only remedy would appear to be along the line of some regulations governing their use.

POLICE SEEK AUTO OWNER.

In the meantime, the police of Baltimore are energetically endeavoring to locate the owner of the mysterious automobile which collided last Sunday night near Beltsville, Md., on the Washington-Baltimore boulevard with the machine driven by Capt. A. J. Taylor, of Washington. In this accident Captain Taylor and his wife were badly shaken up and bruised, and his two guests, Miss Nellie Shoemaker and Miss Anna Burke, also of Washington, were severely injured.

According to Captain Taylor, the accident was due to the fact that, as the unknown machine approached him suddenly around a curve, it flashed in his face headlights so powerful as to blind him for the moment, causing him to lose control of his car.

Marshall Carter, of the Baltimore police department, said today that, although no trace has been found of the machine which struck Captain Taylor's automobile, he and his department have strong hopes of locating both the car and the owner.

Following the accident the strange machine drove on into Baltimore.

Governor Harrington Concerned.
Gov. Emerson C. Harrington, of Maryland, expressed considerable concern over the number of accidents which have occurred recently on the boulevard.

"Personally," he said, "I have thought for some time that there should be a general State law prohibiting these powerful headlights for automobiles. Undoubtedly they are the cause of many an accident. Whether there exists any authority whatever under which the commissioner of motor vehicles may regulate the use of them or not, I am not sure. Commissioner Baughman, however, is undoubtedly one of the best officials of the kind in the country and is doing wonders in the way of curbing reckless driving. He returns to the city I shall make it a point to have a talk with him and see if something cannot be done."

Trying to Stop Wrecks.
Commissioner Baughman had gone to his home in Frederick for the day and could not be seen. On all sides among officials and among motorists in Baltimore the consensus of opinion is that he is accomplishing a great feat toward the curbing of reckless driving. Not only is he insisting on applicants for motor licenses being able to show that they are fitted to run cars, but he is also insisting on the licenses of car owners and chauffeurs convicted of speeding or of violating traffic regulations.

Strange to say the organization most active in an endeavor to remedy the situation, not only along the Washington-Baltimore boulevard but throughout the State are the officials of the Automobile Club.

(Continued on Third Page.)

TWO MORE HURT ON BALTO. BOULEVARD

Mrs. W. L. Merchant and Infant of Francis P. Cannon
Hurt in Crash on Highway.

Mrs. W. L. Merchant is in a serious condition at her home, 502 Eleventh street northeast, and may have serious injury to the brain as a result of an automobile accident near Ellicott, Md., yesterday afternoon, when the machine of her brother-in-law, Francis P. Cannon, was overturned in a collision with a Baltimore machine.

Mr. and Mrs. Cannon's infant child received a cut on its head, but is not fatally injured. It was said at the home today that Mr. and Mrs. Cannon, Mr. Merchant, and the Merchant's little girl, who also were in the car, escaped uninjured.

This is the second automobile accident in forty-eight hours to occur on the Washington-Baltimore boulevard. Sunday night Capt. A. J. Taylor, of this city, driving around a curve in the road near Beltsville, became so blinded by the glare of headlights of an approaching machine that he lost control of his car, and the two children, Miss Nellie Shoemaker and Miss Anna Burke, who were injured in an automobile accident at Beltsville, Md., Sunday night, are still in a precarious condition. While neither of them has grown worse, they have shown no marked improvement. It was said that the machine of the Cannon car, which it is said was being driven by Frederick H. Schmeiser, of Baltimore, swerved suddenly, struck the front wheel of the Cannon car, and overturned it.

The Washingtonians were brought home in passing automobiles. The Schmeiser car was only slightly damaged.

No Change in Condition
Of Motor Car Victims

Physicians at Casualty and Emergency Hospitals said this morning that Misses Nellie Shoemaker and Anna Burke, who were injured in an automobile accident at Beltsville, Md., Sunday night, are still in a precarious condition. While neither of them has grown worse, they have shown no marked improvement. It was said that the machine of the Cannon car, which it is said was being driven by Frederick H. Schmeiser, of Baltimore, swerved suddenly, struck the front wheel of the Cannon car, and overturned it.

CAPITAL SCORE IN FLEA FOR NAVY BASE

P. T. Moran, Chamber of Commerce Head, Makes Argument to Board.

ALSO URGES ALEXANDRIA

Buzzard's Point Proposed for Location Because of Proximity to Navy Yard.

Convincing argument in favor of the location of the proposed Government armor plate factory in or near Washington was made this morning at the Navy Department, when Secretary Daniels and his advisers opened the hearing to determine where the big Government manufacturing plant should be located.

The advantages of this territory as the site for the proposed plant were explained by a number of speakers, and, despite the fact that representatives from about 150 cities were there to argue in favor of their respective localities, the statements made on behalf of Washington and vicinity created a most favorable impression.

The advantages of locating the plant within the District were skillfully argued by P. T. Moran, president of the Chamber of Commerce of Washington, who was accompanied by Joseph I. Weller and Thomas Grant, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce.

Virginians Also Plead.
At the same time a large delegation of Virginians, headed by Congressman Carlin, argued for the location of the plant at Alexandria, and one of the strongest points they made was that such a plant practically would be in the District, and would be constantly under the observation of, and in immediate touch with, the higher officers of the navy, located in Washington.

In his argument for the location of the plant in the District itself President Moran said:

"The same considerations which have proved to be economically sound in the creation of a great ordnance manufacturing plant in the National Capital, in direct touch with and under the immediate control of the administrative officers of the Government, point with conclusive force to a similar policy with regard to the armor-making factory authorized by the naval appropriation act for the current fiscal year."

Buzzard's Point for Site.
The site proposed for the location of the plant in Washington is at what is known as Buzzard's Point. This is near the Washington Navy Yard. The ground in question is the peninsula bordered on the south and east by the Eastern Branch and the land used or to be acquired by the Navy and owned by James Creek and the Washington Arsenal.

All the adjacent land except on the north is the property of the United States, the remaining boundaries being wide rivers. A twenty-three-foot channel runs close to the property and a water front of a mile and a half is available for the largest vessels which can ascend the Potomac.

Thirty-one acres are included in the property. About half the property is owned by the Government and the other half about seventy acres by private persons. Mr. Weller said all the land needed to be acquired could be had from private parties for \$100,000.

One of the arguments made in behalf of Washington was that the defense of the Capital must necessarily be maintained.

(Continued on Second Page.)

Warns Swimmers Of Typhoid Danger

Health Officer Says Bathing and Swimming in Polluted Water Brings Disease.

Directing attention to increase in the number of cases of typhoid attributed in part to pollution of the Potomac river, Health Officer W. C. Woodward today urged residents of the District to exercise care in the prevention of the disease.

Bathing, and particularly swimming in polluted water may cause typhoid, the health officer says, through water taken into the mouth.

Of 140 cases developed in the District last year, the report states, four patients had bathed in the municipal swimming pool and seven in the Potomac river within the incubation period of the disease preceding the attack.

Of 136 cases reported this year, three of the patients had been in the municipal swimming pool and seven in the Potomac river and elsewhere.

"The disproportion in favor of the bathing pools is striking, especially when the enormous patronage of these pools is considered," says Dr. Woodward.

Teachers to Get Back
Pay on September 20

Teachers of the public schools will receive their longevity pay September 20. At the same time payment of allowances to principals will be made. Both items were provided for in the deficiency bill which was passed by the House yesterday.

Youth Says Shooting Of Girl Was Mishap; Victim Is Near Death



MISS ELSIE SACREY,
Who was wounded by Edward Grider, and is now near death at
Emergency Hospital.

Grandmother of Elsie Sacrey Says She Warned Her Not to Go With Grider—Boy Tells How He Got Pistol.

Standing with his hands clasping the bars of a cell in the First precinct station today, Edward Grider, seventeen, who last night shot Elsie Sacrey, sixteen, while at Seventh and D streets southwest, protested he was innocent of intention of harming her, and that the pistol was shot by accident.

At her house, 938 Virginia avenue southwest, Mrs. Clara Young, grandmother of the injured girl, is mourning bitterly over the condition of her "dear little girl." She is vehement in declaring the shooting was not an accident.

"Elsie came up to me last Monday night and said, laughingly: 'I wish that Ed Grider would stop following me around and threatening to kill me.' I told her it was no laughing matter, but that he would carry it out."

WERE NOT LOVERS.
"They were not lovers at all. She didn't care anything for him, but he was wild about her. I forbade her to go with him. This must have made him 'sore,' for she says he threatened to kill her."

The girl lies at the Emergency Hospital, with a wound in her side, perpendicular to the door of death. The bullet entered her side and penetrated her intestines in several places. Physicians say that her chance for recovery is slim.

The shooting is the culmination of a childhood acquaintance. Young Grider and Miss Sacrey were playmates together, in the days when they made mud pies and played "circus," according to her family. Then for a long time the acquaintance was interrupted, to be resumed this May. "The youth would often remind her 'of the little red shawl you used to wear when we were kids together,' and talk of old times."

But, according to Mrs. Young, the girl did not care much for Grider. "That child, despite the sight of him," she declared emphatically. "She wanted him to stop following her around. She was not a sweetheart of his."

War Council at Kaiser's Headquarters Was Called for This Purpose, Writer Says.

DYNAMITE FOUND ON TRACKS IN N. Y.

NEW YORK, Sept. 13.—William Schumacher, a track walker employed by the Interborough railway, against which a strike was declared on the subway and elevated lines, reported to the police that he found a package of blasting dynamite on the subway rails in Brooklyn early today.

An inspector of the bureau of combustible pronounced the contents of the package dynamite. The police are questioning Schumacher closely.

Fourteen arrests were made in the early morning hours on charges of violence or intimidation of employees. Three persons were injured when a Third Avenue car, which the police said was in charge of strike-breakers, ran into a closed switch today and jumped the track.

The dispute between the car employees and the traction companies had reached a complete deadlock today. President Shonts of the Interborough and President Whitridge of the Third Avenue lines served notice that they would not consent to arbitration as proposed by the public service commission.

Received Favorable Reports.
Most favorable reports were brought to the war council from the different fronts. The Austro-German command reported that the latest Russian offensive around Halls has been stopped. It was learned that the German and Bulgarian invasion of Roumania continues to make progress, while the Bulgarians are successfully pushing the Russian offensive in the Dobruja is progressing.

FRENCH SWEEP GERMANS BACK NEAR COMBLES

Capture Village of Bouchavesnes, Vital in Third Line
Somme Defenses.

GUNS THREATEN PERONNE

Gains Made in Desperate Night
Attack Followed Up by Bayonet Charge.

PARIS, Sept. 13.—Continuing their great drive on the front of Combles and Peronne, the French last night captured the whole of the village of Bouchavesnes, midway between Combles and Peronne, despite the Germans' most desperate resistance, it was officially announced today.

Early this morning the French pushed further eastward, capturing the Bois Labe farms near the Peronne-Bapaune-Bethune highway, by a brilliant bayonet charge.

The French gains in the great attack that began yesterday afternoon are of the greatest importance. The positions carried are the last of the strongly fortified German third line of defense between Combles and Peronne. All the positions now held by the Germans back of this line have been built under the unceasing fire of French artillery and consequently are not nearly so strong as the old lines.

FRENCH NEAR VICTORY.
General Foch is nearer a striking victory over the Germans than at any time since the great Somme offensive began.

Combles, the main point of support of the whole German line from Bapaune to Peronne, is under fire from two sides and half way surrounded as the result of yesterday's smashing blow by the French. Peronne itself has been cut off from direct communication with Combles, and the French, driving eastward on a front of nearly four miles, have established themselves almost directly north of the city.

The capture of both Combles and Peronne within a fortnight is expected by some military critics if Foch continues his hammer blows north of the Somme.

Guns Dominate Combles.
Hill 145, two miles southeast of Combles, was captured in the first fifteen minutes of the great French push yesterday afternoon. The French went over the summit with bayonets and grenades and drove the Germans down the rolling slope. From this new position French artillery can completely dominate Combles, while the British are shelling the town on the northeast.

Continuing their rush the French took trenches along the Bapaune-Peronne highway for a distance of more than a mile and a half, Hill 76, rising from the swampy ground on the northern bank of the Tortille river and within artillery range of Peronne, was reached by the right wing of the attacking army.

Berlin Admits Loss of
Bouchavesnes Village

BERLIN, Sept. 13.—French troops penetrated the village of Bouchavesnes, between Combles and Peronne, in heavy fighting last night, but were repulsed at attacks near Thilamont and Souville, on the northeastern Verdun front, it was officially announced today.

LONDON, Sept. 13.—The situation on the British front as the result of last night's operations is unchanged, General Haig reported today.

Italians Join Drive
Of Allies in Balkans

PARIS, Sept. 13.—Italian troops have joined the general allied offensive in Greece and are fighting near Butkovsum, it was officially announced today. Despite heavy Bulgarian resistance the Serbians are continuing their advance. They have occupied an important position north of Covic, and are advancing toward Kaitmachalad. South of Ostrobo lake, the French made an important advance.

Ailed artillery is bombarding enemy positions on both sides of the Vardar.

Austrians on Retreat
In East Transylvania

BUCHAREST, Sept. 13.—The Austrians are retreating from the upper Maros and Alta valleys in Transylvania, without attempting any serious resistance, it was officially announced today. The capture of Orsova by the Roumanians has stopped the progress of Austrian and Bulgarian supply of ships on the Danube.

The new Russo-Roumanian offensive in the Dobruja is progressing.